

Jim Doyle
Governor

Roberta Gassman
Secretary



State of Wisconsin

Department of Workforce Development

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Department of Workforce Development Secretary Visits Carpenters Training Center in Kaukauna

Kaukauna - Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Roberta Gassman toured the Northern Wisconsin Regional Council of Carpenters (NWRCC) Training Center in Kaukauna on August 3.

"The skilled trades have a proud tradition in Wisconsin and are a vital part of the state's economy. At the heart of Governor Doyle's Affordability Agenda is a commitment to ensure that people have the training necessary to compete for high-wage, high skill jobs," said Secretary Gassman. "The Northern Wisconsin Regional Council of Carpenters (NWRCC) Training Center is a prime example of the type of world-class instruction that is provided in this state, ensuring that Wisconsin will continue to have a highly-skilled workforce producing high quality products and workmanship."

Secretary Gassman's visit highlighted Governor Doyle's commitment to economic growth; strategies on building a highly skilled workforce; and the training center's success in preparing workers for the skilled trades.

NWRCC formed in 1999 and opened the East Training Center in Kaukauna in January 2000. NWRCC represents councils and local unions across the state, here in Fox River Valley, but also in the Wisconsin River Valley, Eau Claire, and La Crosse. The membership is 7,000 and growing.

NWRCC offers four-year paid apprenticeship programs in six jurisdictions. Apprentices earn living wage, and 60 percent of journeymen receive five percent increases every six months of apprenticeship. To enter the program, a person needs a high school diploma, GED, or equivalent. Good basic math and geometry skills are important.

An example of a career ladder in carpentry would be for a person to begin as an apprentice, advance to a journeyman, then to a foreman/supervisor, next a superintendent and project coordinator, and possibly become an apprenticeship instructor at the center.

For more information about carpentry apprenticeships, please contact DWD at 608-266-3332.

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